suspension is positioned in a first direction and the connecting end of the slider/head is positioned in a second direction.

18. **(Three Times Amended)** A suspension assembly comprising:

a slider/head assembly;

a suspension having a connecting end and electrically conducting paths;

a microactuator having a connecting end ; and

an interconnect module coupling the connecting ends of the suspension and the microactuator to route one or more data signals between said electrically conducting paths and said microactuator, such that the connecting end of the suspension is positioned in a first direction and the connecting end of the microactuator is positioned in a second direction.

21. **(Three Times Amended)** An assembly, comprising:

a first device having a connecting end;

a second device having a connecting end and electrically conducting paths; and

an interconnect device coupling the connecting ends of the first and second devices to route one or more signals between said first device and said electrically conducting paths, such that the connecting end of the first device is positioned in a first direction and the connecting end of the second device is positioned in a second direction.

24. **(Three Times Amended)** A storage device, comprising:

a disk;

a spindle motor positioned to support and rotate said disk;

a suspension assembly including an interconnect module coupled between a slider/head assembly having a connecting end and a suspension, said suspension having a connecting end and electrically conducting paths, and said interconnect module coupling the connecting ends of the slider/head assembly and the suspension and routing one or more data signals between said electrically conducting paths and said slider/head assembly, such that the connecting end of the suspension is positioned in a first direction and the connecting end of the slider/head assembly is positioned in a second direction; and

C4

an actuator coupled to said suspension assembly and operable to position said suspension assembly above said disk to access said disk for reading and/or writing operations.

27. **(Three Times Amended)** A test system for disks, comprising:

a spindle motor for rotating a disk during a test operation; and

C5

a test platform including a suspension assembly coupled to an actuator, said actuator operable to position said suspension assembly above said disk to access said disk for said test operation, said suspension assembly including an interconnect module coupled between a slider/head assembly having a connecting end and a suspension, said suspension having a connecting end and electrically conducting paths, and said interconnect module coupling the connecting ends of the slider/head assembly and the suspension and routing one or more data signals between said electrically conducting paths and said slider/head assembly , such that the connecting end of the suspension is positioned in a first direction and the connecting end of the slider/head assembly is positioned in a second direction.

31. **(Three Times Amended)** A storage device, comprising:

a disk;

C10

a spindle motor positioned to support and rotate said disk;

a suspension assembly including an interconnect module coupled between a suspension having a connecting end and electrically conducting paths and a microactuator having a connecting end, the interconnect module coupling the connecting ends of the suspension and the microactuator and routing data signals between said electrically conducting paths and said microactuator, such that the connecting end of the suspension is positioned in a first direction and the connecting end of the microactuator is positioned in a second direction; and

an actuator coupled to said suspension assembly and operable to position said suspension assembly above said disk to access said disk for reading and/or writing operations.

34. **(Three Times Amended)** A test system for disks, comprising:

C14

a spindle motor for rotating a disk during a test operation; and